

Notification from VP4

13 January 2010

Breast-feeding time

The question of breast-feeding during working time has recently been brought to the President's attention by some staff members as well as by the Staff Representation.

The Administration wishes to make it clear that the Office fully recognises the importance of breast-feeding for the health of the mother and the child. Over the past few years, catering for maternity and providing the best possible working and family arrangements has been a continuing concern for the Office. As in the past, the Office continues to allow for breast-feeding during working time on Office premises or in its immediate vicinity. The necessary arrangements, such as the number and duration of the breaks needed, should be agreed with the line manager and will have no effect on the staff member's salary entitlement. Time spent on breast-feeding is thus considered as working time.

Reporting officers will take into account the personal and family circumstances of nursing staff members when assessing performance. There is however no special time or productivity deduction made for breast-feeding purposes.

For further medical advice please contact us directly.